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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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Every friend of immigration restriction should immediately request their two Senators to insist on the Burnett Immigration bill being voted on at this session of Congress.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING FAVORED BY SENATE

Washington, Aug. 5.—The senate has passed the Smith-Hughes bill, which provides for vocational education and industrial training, and which has been continuously urged by the American Federation of Labor. This legislation, known in the house as the Hughes bill, has been approved by the committee on education and is now on the house calendar.

Under this bill the federal government will pay an amount equal to that expended by states for education designed to prepare boys and girls over 14 years of age for useful and profitable employment in agriculture, in the trades and industries and in home economics, and to extend knowledge of mature workers. Only schools controlled by the public are eligible to federal assistance.

Three classes of schools are contemplated:

1. Part-aid schools in which practically half the time is given to vocational instruction.

Second—Part-time schools for young workers over 14 years of age, with a view to extending their vocational knowledge.

Third—Evening schools to extend the vocational knowledge for workers over 16 years of age.

Provision is made for the training of teachers of agricultural, trade, industrial and home economic subjects.

A federal board for vocational education is created which will work with state boards designated or created for this purpose.

To secure federal aid the states, through their legislatures or otherwise, must formally accept the conditions of this act.

The bill was prepared largely through the work of a commission on national aid to vocational education, created by act of congress and approved by President Wilson, January 30, 1914. On this commission the president appointed as representatives of organized labor, Miss Agnes Nestor, president of the International Glove Workers' union, and Charles H. Winslow, Sawsmiths' union.

While little publicity has been given this legislation, which is based on a need for real efficiency, it involves the expenditure of large sums. In the matter of salaries for teachers, supervisors and directors of agricultural, trade and industrial subjects alone, $25,000,000 will be expended between the years 1916 and 1926. These appropriations start with $1,600,000 for the year 1916 and increase annually until the maximum is reached.

OVERTIME IS HARMFUL.

Manchester, England, Aug. 5.—The Cotton Factory Times makes this comment on the national report of the chief inspector of factories and workshops:

"Special attention has, of course, been directed to the effect on health of the extended hours of labor which emergency orders have rendered permissible. As the year advanced the tendency grew to substitute shifts for the long day followed by overtime, which was at once both uneconomical as well as detrimental to health. For the same reason Sunday labor has become prevalent. It would appear, however, that no great success has yet followed the endeavors of these inspectors to persuade managers to substitute eight-hour shifts for spells of 11, 12, or 13 hours. Wasteful overtime, especially at night time and night work, for young girls especially, needs no further demonstration. Such a system is not economical, and may be 'the good cause that gives good heart for work,' as one of them is quoted as saying, but nature is adamant.

"Overtime in cotton mills is a rarity, because, as it is well known, the operatives have resolutely set their faces against it; but where, to meet a special emergency overtime is inflicted on workers, uninterruptedly, the periodical examination of the operatives is compulsory, and power is given for examining surgeon to suspend, either wholly or for a period, anyone showing undue signs of fatigue. It is satisfactory to know that the question of the health of the toilers is the subject of so much solicitude. Out of the evil of the war at least some good has come!"

TELEGRAPHERS GET INCREASE.

New York, Aug. 5.—An arbitration board has awarded salary increases to the telegraphers and towermen of the New York Central and Nickel Plate railroads. The average raise amounts to 9 per cent. Most of Buffalo the men will get $ per cent, and those east 10 per cent. The demand was for 15 and 12½ per cent, respectively.

Men employed for two years will get seven days' annual vacation and those who have worked three years and longer will get 10 days. The demand was for vacations of 14 days. Men will hereafter receive double pay for Sunday work and need not work overtime unless the interests of the lines demand it.

These employes are members of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers and the A. F. of L. To have their wage demands considered, they were forced to embroil a strike vote by the membership, which carried by a large majority. Then the companies agreed to arbitrate.

LOSE FREE SPEECH FIGHT.

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 5.—Met Neff has been found guilty of attempting to read a noonday talk on trade unionism to the unorganized workers at the Jeffrey coal company's plant. Several other unionists are charged with this offense. At the first trial a member of the Machinists' union was discharged. It was shown that the police ordered him so "stop speaking," and the jury refused to convict him for exercising his rights. At Neff's trial the police swore to different testimony. They said they were ordered to their orders to "vacate."

The police has turned over his department to anti-union employers in their campaign against organized labor. He has employed union officials in the town and has detained them in his office to prohibit them from addressing meetings.

MINERS CHOOSE OFFICIALS.

Great Falls, Mont., Aug. 5.—President Moyer and Secretary-Treasurer Mills of the Western Federation of Miners have been re-elected by a referendum vote. Delegates to the A. F. of L. are President Moyer, Joseph D. Cannon, James Roberts and P. J. Reardon.

A canvassing board made the above report to the convention of these metal miners, held in this city.

BAKERS REDUCE HOURS.

Richmond, Va., Aug. 5.—The Corby Baking company has signed a two-years' contract with the Bakers' union. The company agrees to observe only union hours, hours are reduced from 10 to 9 per day and wages are increased.

LONGSHOREMEN DEMAND MORE.

Duluth, Minn., Aug. 5.—Longshoremen's union has asked the Northern Pacific railroad and the Lake Lines Stevedores' association to increase wages 5 cents an hour.

ROCKEFELLER "UNION" DISCARDED BY MINERS

Trinidad, Col., Aug. 5.—Miners at Sopris and Piedmont, mining camps near this city, have organized a trade union with 160 members and applied to the United Mine Workers' union for a charter.

It is reported that there was a district or a national officer of the United Mine Workers' union present and the men acted on their own initiative. They have not learned that miners all over the United States have received wage increases during the past four months, because they are organized, and that the miners of Colorado had received nothing because they are not organized.

It was also stated that officers of the United Mine Workers' union have not visited them at any time. "We organized ourselves," said one miner. "Of course we would like to have the national officials visit us after we get our new local started."

Because these workers are employed by the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, their action is most significant. It is an answer to the claims of John D. Rockefeller, jr., and his press agents that the Rockefeller theory of conducting a "union" is acceptable to coal diggers, who now disregard the advice of managers, superintendents and mine guards because they note the gains made by miners who rely on trade union methods.

The same miners have been told Fuel and Iron company "will not cause any trouble." The action of the state supreme court in sustaining the Colorado anti-Huerfano county, gunmen and operators' thugs, even in election day disorders, will be a factor in convincing the coal companies that their policy of terror is now futile. That it is impossible to deny workers the right to organize in its decision the court has said that the police commissioners had been turned over to the absolute domination and imperial control of the governor, and that this was void by so much as "as absolutely and privately as were their mines, to and for their own private purposes."

The court sustained the charge that "they had not only done nothing who opposed the coal companies the right to vote, but that he had packed juries with creatures of the coal operators.

On this decision Editor O'Neill, of the Trinidad Free Press writes:

"The journey from darkness to light has been long and weary, but the decision of the supreme court marks the beginning of the end, for this dethronement of the political highwaymen of Huerfano county purples the horizon with the dawn of final coming of the when law shall be respected and when the sovereign power of the people shall no longer be menaced by corporate might, backed by the pistol of the thug and the rifle of a mine guard, that put in political monarchs, to maintain and perpetuate the reign of soulless greed."

TRADE PAPER DEFENDS UNIONS.

Chicago, Aug. 5.—The Inland Printer, a journal devoted to the interests of the printing industries, objects to the position of a religious paper in its attack on organized labor, which, it says, represents only one-tenth of the workers. The Inland Printer says:

"We have yet to learn that the members of any union are so enslaved by their officials that they are, on the whole so badly off are the great sweated and unorganized masses. It cannot be said that a long week's work, low wages, unhealthful conditions and insecurity of employment are compatible with liberty in the true sense of the word."

The Inland Printer editor suggests that his opponent "study economics," and that practicality with his cast-iron interpretation of the rights of men to do as they like, for it should surely be clear even to one totally ignorant of industrial conditions, that if labor unionists consented to work side by side with officers' laborers who would undercut them, their 'proper organization,' which it is their (the unionists') duty to form, could not possibly exist. It almost seems a logical corollary to this contention that a free worker ought to be allowed to go about and do just as he likes, even if he has the smallpox.

"As a fact, nine-tenths of the charges arise from the fact that the principles of trade unionism are applied too narrowly. They are the same principles of brotherhood and of co-operation which are preached but too seldom practiced by the churches, and applied, though imperfectly, by the various fraternal bodies."

COMPENSATION LAW EFFECTIVE.

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 5.—After running the gauntlet of state legislatures and various Kentucky courts the state workmen's compensation act was declared valid last Tuesday.

The law provides for a compensation equal to ⅔ per cent of the average weekly earnings, but not less than $5 per week nor more than $10, with additional medical fee not to exceed $100. An additional fee of $100 is provided in cases where employes will sight and the surgical operation necessitated through the appearance of hernia (rupture), provided that this did not exist prior to any disgrace prior to the injury for which compensation is claimed. No claim for compensation shall be sustained where the employe was intoxicated, and claims shall be exempt from creditors. The law fixes the limit of compensation of $4,000 in case of death and $5,000 under the total disability clause.

ACCIDENTS INCREASE.

Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 5.—During the first six months of 1916 almost as many accidents occurred in Pennsylvania's mines and industries as were reported during the entire 12 months of the previous year, reports Commissioner of Labor Jackson.

The causes for this increase are the greater number of men employed at high wages, the speeding up of machinery, and the operation of the workmen's compensation law, which is bringing in full reports of accidents. The state department of labor and industry is conducting a campaign for safety. It quotes Inspector Roberts as saying that a full year's waste of the vital resources of Pennsylvania.

UNORGANIZED GIRLS STRIKE.

Wilmington, Del., Aug. 5.—President Gerstenberg of the Wilmington Employers' association is an advocate of the non-union shop. He says it means a two-years' contract with the Bakers' union. The company agrees to observe only union hours, hours are reduced from 10 to 9 per day and wages are increased.

LONGSHOREMEN DEMAND MORE.

Duluth, Minn., Aug. 5.—Longshoremen's union has asked the Northern Pacific railroad and the Lake Lines Stevedores' association to increase wages 5 cents an hour.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 5.—Iron molders are still on strike against the Chattanooga Roofing and Foundry company, which refuses a nine-hour day, $2.25 per bench employes, $3.50 for floor men and a 10 per cent increase for piece work. Six large foundries have accepted the new rates.

SPEECHES AND PARADES SHOULD DISTINGUISH LABOR DAY

PRESIDENT GOMPERS, IN AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST.

Many labor organisations have Labor day celebrations under consideration at the present time. Through the efforts of the labor movement the first Monday in September has been generally set aside as the distinctively Labor day of the year and it is now practically by common consent a holiday.

The purpose of the day is to direct general thought toward the needs and aspirations of the workers, and to afford the workers themselves time and opportunity to consider those things which vitally concern them and the labor organization through which they are trying to work out their salvation.

Wherever the workers have been through some crisis which has stirred them to particular effort and roused them to renewed sense of appreciation of the meaning of the labor movement, the celebration for the day invariably has a peculiar significance and arouses deepseated feeling of enthusiasm.

But, as in every other relationship, where there is nothing that has particularly stirred them to activity there is the tendency toward a general lethargy in the celebration of Labor day, and it is permitted to degenerate into a sort of social holiday unmarked by anything distinctively labor.

This is a serious mistake. Labor day can have its fullest value only when there is associated with the celebration of the day efforts to call attention to the purposes and the causes of the labor movement. It affords a day for the renewing devotion to the cause of labor. For the fraternity of feeling and for instilling larger and broader ideals which lead out to a wider field of activity and a fuller appreciation of the possibilities of the labor movement.

A Labor day properly celebrated does much to strengthen the organization and gives that movement a publicity that can rarely be secured in any other way. When the holiday is distinctively labor, labor news and labor doings necessarily have first place in all daily papers. The greater the effort of the labor movement to place emphasis and prominence upon labor celebrations, the greater will be the publicity we gain and consequently there will result better understanding of the power and possibilities of the labor movement—an understanding that can be utilized for practical purposes during the whole year.

It is, therefore, urged that every central body in the country shall prepare a distinctively labor celebration on the coming Labor day. There ought to be a parade that will attract the attention of the whole town to the cause of labor, which is the cause of humanity, and in addition a general gathering of the workers of the community to listen to labor addresses.

The suggestion has been made in tremendous progress during the past year. On this coming Labor day we ought to make known the story of that progress to the whole nation, and plan for greater constructive work during the next year. There are no limitations to the work of the labor movement, no limitations to its power to bring betterment into the lives of the workers of this country or to establish mutually helpful relations with the workers of all other countries.

The labor movement of the United States has reason to be proud of its achievements. Let us be unafraid of the work that has been done for humanity and civilization during the past year. Let us make progress in an adequate way on September 4.

LAW VIOLATED BY STRIKING

Denver, Col., Aug. 5.—With malice aforethought Journeyman Tailors' union No. 194 violated a state law which prohibits workers from striking within 30 days' notice to the state industrial commission.

Several months ago the tailors secured an agreement with the Marx Tailoring company after weeks of strike and negotiations. The agreement violated the law and the commission were denounced by these unionists at that time. Accordingly the agreement, which contained the agreement and the tailors suspended work without giving the 30 days' notice. A few hours after the strike was called the company assured the union it would abide by the agreement.

When the members of the state industrial commission heard of this disregard for law they were properly appalled and notified officers of the Journeymen Tailors' union that they must immediately deal with. The workers were liable to heavy fines, but as Colorado unionists are awakening to what this "no strike" law means, it was evidently deemed best to go slow in the matter of fines. So the penalty was waived, but not before the state officials impressed the unionists with the enormity of their offense in quitting work in defiance of the statute in such cases.

During this sermon one of the unionists was discovered winking in an irreverent manner.

NEW YORK CAR MEN STRIKE.

New York, Aug. 5.—The street car strike that started in Westchester county, near this city, on July 26, has swept south and now involves the Third avenue and other lines. The strike is a New York city revolt against the refusal of the management to consider the men's demands. The company has stated that their grievances "would be submitted to the board of directors if you stop operating cars." Members of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes is in charge of affairs and it is charged that the attitude of the companies a general street car strike seems inminent.

Opposition in the street car men's union is the cause for present conditions, it is the view of many. Labor peace contracts all over this country and Canada, the street car men's union has secured, but not before the state officials were impressed the unionists with the enormity of their offense in quitting work in defiance of the state law.

"To accept the regime of this organization would immediately make the corporation of the street railroads of New York a prey to the orders, the prejudices and the disputes of the officers of an alien organization with alien interests, working for alien purposes, and with no responsibility whatever to this community."

SAYS STRIKERS ARE JUSTIFIED

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Aug. 5.—State Commissioner of Labor and Industry Jackson has reiterated his former statement that motormen and conductors of this city were justified in insisting that the arbitration award be reopened, and which resulted in the present strike, which began at 6 o'clock last Sunday morning.

The strikers originally demanded wage increases, and the matter was referred to an arbitration board. Mr. Jackson served as chairman. The board's decision was based on a sliding scale. The employes' representative protested against this decision, as the scale of wages for which the board was created. Later Mr. Jackson accepted this viewpoint and reversed the decision, which the company refused to accept.

R. R. EMPLOYES LOW WAGE.

St. Augustine, Fla., Aug. 5.—Vice President Beckwith of the Florida East Coast Railway company has issued an appeal to all employes of the system, stating that the contract that engineers, conductors, firemen and trainmen suspend work to enforce their wage demand. They approve the "unreasonableness" of this demand he cites the wages of these employes and says that the company pays the day wage "of all other employes," excepting general office clerks, $1.75 per day. He closes an appeal to these low wage workers as follows: "If the emergency arises there will be a call for volunteers. Will you serve as a volunteer, and in what capacity? Please advise."

IRON WORKERS RAISE WAGES.

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 5.—Representatives of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers and employers have agreed to a wage scale for 1916, following the scales for the boiling and finishing division, will be advanced 5 per cent for the classes of work.

The union's general wage scale has been signed by the Western Bar Iron associations and about a score of individual mills.

LABOR CLEARING HOUSES.

Washington, Aug. 5.—Plans for establishing State labor clearing houses in every state are announced by Commissioner General Caminetti of the immigration bureau, who directs the federal department of labor's employment service. These plans establish the heart to co-operation with existing state and municipal bodies.

MUNITION WORKERS WIN.

Scranton, Pa., Aug. 5.—After a week's strike 800 puddlers, carmenters and laborers employed at the Scranton Bolt and Nut Works, have increased wages. Puddlers' rates are raised $1 a ton; laborers, 10 cents a ton and carpenters' wages 50 cents per day. The company is making war munitions.

CANAL ZONE CONDITIONS WILL REMAIN THE SAME

Washington, Aug. 5.—President Wilson has signed the canal zone working conditions on the Panama canal zone.

Two years ago, when this work passed to the permanent administration, it was the president, according to law, issued an executive order to the effect that all government, fuel and light to employes occupying government houses. The metal trades department of the A. F. of L. succeeded in having the enforcement of this order postponed until June 30, 1916. Efforts were made by the labor congress crowd to secure that would continue conditions maintained during the construction period, but the president, in the order signed, has disapproved by the senate. The unionists then appealed to the president direct, who referred the matter to Secretary of War Garrison and Secretary of Labor Wilson for investigation. The attorney general ruled that an executive order was within the law and last week President Wilson accepted the recommendations of the cabinet officials, who agreed with the trade unionists.

The workers on the canal zone can see no difference as far as their labor is concerned between the construction period and the permanent period, and they protested against what virtually amounted to a reduction in wages. The labor in charge of the work have received what is equivalent to a pension.

CAN'T LIVE ON $840 A YEAR.

New York, Aug. 5.—Employes of the municipal street cleaning department have protested against the finding of Charles P. Tirrell, of the bureau of standards, that a laborer can support a family of five on $16 a year. These employes say:

"For instance, Mr. Tirrell claims that a husband's food per day should not exceed 30 cents; a wife's food, 20 cents; a boy of 13 years, 21 cents; a girl of 15 years, 16 cents; a child of 6, 13 cents.

"We can't see how under these present high cost of living, a family of five can exist, not live, on such a miserable pittance. We also state that Dr. Robert Coit Chapins' book on 'Standard of Living' says that the average family should last three years, that a suit for $5 should last three years. Theoretically this may be good. But we would ask Dr. Chapins and Mr. Tirrell to be so kind and practice the scale of wages for a few years, and then give their earnest statement whether it is possible to exist on this scale.

"We do not demand any luxury; we demand a living wage to support our wives and children properly."

WHAT IS "GOOD GOVERNMENT?"

Indianapolis, Aug. 5.—The official paper of the Bricklayers' International union says:

"If good government were possible through the medium of law, the United States, individually and collectively, would have reached the millennium, for the reason that we have been passing laws to fit every kind and degree of condition. Good government does not come that way. Every reform in history has come up from the people, the real lawmaking power to the people. The future of this country rests with the great unorganized people—the average man who never gets into the newspapers but who does his day's work and takes his family and lives the life. He is the man who is the court of last resort. His ballot is the greatest force every year. And as he raises his standard so the standards of the state are raised, for he is the state."

FARMERS FAVOR UNIONISM.

Augusta, Ga., Aug. 5.—"The farmers must organize and federate with other labor unions if they would attain the greatest success," declared President Brown in his opening address to the convention of the Georgia division of the National Farmers' union.

The convention appointed a committee to confer with representatives of the organized workers on the question of legislation. Included in the latter committee are representatives of the railroad brotherhoods. As a result of this conference it was decided that a national branch, A. F. of L., it was stated that the returns of the referendum vote showed a decided labor in the state is opposed to the formation of a labor party.

The resolutions have been urged for several years and at the last convention it was referred to the executive board, who submitted it to a referendum vote.

FREIGHT HANDLERS GAIN.

Windsor, Ontario, Aug. 5.—Wage increases and pay for overtime followed a general strike of freight handlers employed in the Grand Trunk railroad yards.

CREDITS BOARD NOMINATED

Washington, Aug. 5.—President Wilson has nominated Charles E. Lobdell, Grand Island, Neb.; George W. Morris, Philadelphia, Pa., and Orville Wyman, Chicago, and Herbert Quick, Berkeley Springs, W. Va., as members of the farm loan board created by the rural credits bill, recently passed by congress.

The following are features of the law:

Provides for a federal farm loan bureau in the treasury department.

Provides a federal loan board of five members to control the bureau.

Banks are empowered to lend on first mortgages on farm lands in amounts of not more than 50 per cent of the value. No loan may be made for more than 50 per cent of the value of the land and 20 per cent of the value of the permanent insured improvements.

Before federal loan associations, local organizations, composed exclusively of borrowers, are authorized.

The act authorizes the federal land banks from charging more than 6 per cent on any mortgage.

Borrowers will share in the net profits of the bank, because they are stockholders. It is contemplated that ultimately the borrowers will be the only stockholders.

Long term loans are provided by authorizing mortgages for periods of from five up to 40 years.

Small or semi-annual payments on the principal are made a required feature by all loan associations.

Joint-stock land banks are authorized. They are corporations for carrying on a business of both the above activities. Provision is made for the issuance of farm loan bonds.

GARMENT STRIKE STILL ON.

New York, Aug. 5.—Locked out ladies' garment workers refuse to accept the settlement agreed to by their representatives and the Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers' association. The agreement made no provision for arbitrating the differences in prices, and officials concluded to submit the plan to their associates, who rejected it on the ground that they could not trust their former employers to arbitrate and that they would continue the fight indefinitely to establish this principle.

Federal Judge Hand has issued an order restraining the strikers from interfering with the trade union methods when he publicly declared that "the association is unimpeachable" and expressed the purpose of the lockout."

This statement has been used by the strikers to prove the insincerity of the employers' chief, who now realizes his mistake and is assuring the public that the workers were offered "sweatshop pay."

Robert W. Bruere, a well-known New Yorker, who is acting as the strikers' arbitrator, says of the revolt of the workers against this concession finally demonstrated that it is impossible to have highly combiex industry to arrive at an agreement that will be fair alike to the employers locked out and their right to secure durable peace, without intervention of a board of arbitration. This agreement is to continue for a period of two years." The agreement provided for a conciliation committee which all differences were to be referred. About 60,000 employes are directly affected.

SCHOOLS INCREASE.

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 5.—Twice during the last 10 years has this state "doubled" was the "population of the secondary schools of this country increased, according to Dr. Frank M. Judd, chief of education.

"In 1890," he said, "the reorganization of the common schools began, but it was not until after the civil war that consistent effort was made to offer a change in the secondary schools. From that time there has been a continued movement for the establishment of these schools, which today are lavishly equipped on the material side and afford wide opportunity to the pupil in the numerous branches of study."

TO FIGHT NON-UNION SHOP.

Boston, Aug. 5.—At the semi-annual convention of Massachusetts Plumbers and Steamfitters' unions it was voted to assess members $1 to fight an attempt to place this trade on a non-union basis. Three large firms in Worcester have declared that they intend to establish an "open shop," and the plumbers and steamfitters are determined that the movement in that city shall not extend throughout the state.

SIGN CLERKS' AGREEMENT.

Gary, Ind., Aug. 5.—Merchants in this city have signed an agreement with the Retail Clerks' union and signed an agreement which provides for modern closing hours and improved working conditions.

PAINTERS WIN STRIKE.

Pueblo, Col., Aug. 5.—The Painters' union has won a strike. Employers have conceded all demands and have signed an agreement with 276 union.

DRIVERS RAISE WAGES.

Boston, Aug. 5.—Sand and Tip Cart Drivers' union No. 379 has put into effect its new scale, which raises wages $1 a week.

RAISE WAGES $1 A DAY.

Denver, Col., Aug. 5.—Hoisting Engineers' union has raised wages $1 a day as the result of conference.

DIRECT LEGISLATION CRIPPLED BY COURT

Olympia, Wash., Aug. 5.—The power of the people has been taken unto themselves to check rule of the people is shown in a decision by the state supreme court on an initiative measure known as the "blue sky bill."

A portion of this proposed law is explanatory. The court rules that this is "argument" and must be eliminated, on the ground that it is unfair to opponents of the bill, who must, according to law, pay for publishing their own arguments.

This decision was made by a vote of five to four, and places the court in the attitude of a censor over direct legislation, which is intended to permit a free discussion by the people in legislative matters.

In a dissenting opinion the four minority judges declared that of all laws these initiated must require the aid of a preamble as a key to the intention of its framers and that if the court's opinion is correct, "then the courts must in every instance either say that there shall be no preamble, thus abrogating the admitted power of the lawmakers to define their intention, or annul the entire act as to its every provision without the aid of briefs and determine for themselves the ambiguity that may arise in every possible case, which a preamble and the preamble might be necessary to solve."

The minority protests against court censorship and declares that the court "has reversed itself from a former decision in which it was held that questions of fact, only, were to be submitted to the every section. Every preamble is in its nature explanatory, argumentative, and every law carries in its provisions an argument for its own existence. Assume for the power, it is difficult to believe that either the people, when they adopted the constitutional amendment, or the legislature, when it passed the referendum act, ever intended that the courts should so scan and weigh initiated bills as to purge them of argumentative matter."

INVESTIGATING FARM LIVING.

Sacramento, Cal., Aug. 5.—The state rural credits commission is investigating the much-discussed question whether a man with a family and without experience can make a comfortable living in California on a few acres of land.

Numerous colonies have been started in this state recently on the theory that experience is not necessary. As this movement is attracting attention, it is now proposed that actual conditions be made public. Professor Elwood Mead, chairman of the commission, says:

"If the underlying idea of these colonies as to the returns from intensive agriculture is correct, this plan of rural development should be encouraged, but if it is based on false theories and an exaggerated idea of what can be done on the areas sold to settlers, then this fact should be determined and given publicity in order that this form of rural development may not be overdone and that inexperienced people may be protected from the loss of their savings and the disappointment which usually follows undeserved failure."

PRINTERS TO MEET AUGUST 14.

Baltimore, Aug. 5.—The local Typographical union has completed arrangements for the sixty-second convention of the International Typographical union, which meets in this city next Monday, August 14. It is arranged for the convention to adjourn on Tuesday, when the delegates will participate in a session of Washington Typographical union, at the Lincoln theater.

President Scott of the international union has appointed the following delegates to serve on the committee on laws, which will consider amendments before the convention convenes: James J. Hoban, Cleveland; A. B. Wood, Philadelphia; Harrisburg; T. F. Kane, Boston; H. M. Power, Jersey City; E. P. Scott, Chicago; F. C. Jaegle, Los Angeles; F. O. Martin, St. Joseph, Mo.

TEXTILE WORKERS AWAKE.

Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 5.—The Textile Workers' union is conducting a campaign agitation for improved working conditions. Hours are being reduced and wages increased. The Textile Workers' union is to call several strikes. Large numbers of unorganized are joining the union as a result of these gains.

Philadelphia, Aug. 5.—Poor working conditions and low wages are being rejected by textile workers in this city. Turn workers, silk workers, carpet and other employes in this industry have called several strikes and in some instances they have been successful in securing betterments.

SEAMEN OPPOSE WELFARE PLAN.

Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 5.—The Seamen's union has secured increased wages and the abolition of a so-called "welfare plan" that the Lake Carriers' association is forcing on its employes. Under this scheme the color of a seaman's eye and hair together with other physical features, are described in a book he must always carry to secure employment on any vessel which is a member of the association. President Furuseth of the International Seamen's union and Secretary Olander, of the local branch in this city conferring with local union seamen.

RAILROAD CLERKS STRIKE.

Jersey City, N. J., Aug. 5.—Because the Lehigh Valley railroad refused to discharge a school of Railway Clerks, were discharged, 20 yellow workers employed by the company, the clerks employed in the yards suspended work. Railroad officials deny that the discharged clerks belonged to a labor union affiliation. "Insubordination" is their excuse. As the railroad policy is against unionism, the officials' denial of affiliation is another way of stating the brotherhood's position.

MANY LABOR LAW VIOLATIONS.

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 5.—Chief State Factory Inspector Nelson reports that his department has made 26,467 inspections during the past year, while working under the 30 state statutes under his jurisdiction. A total of 68 convictions, which were secured in addition to 1,000 cases which were settled out of court, are recorded. There were 382 convictions for violations of the child labor law.

CIGAR MAKERS STRIKE.

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STOP WATCH "JOKER" BLOCKED BY SENATE

Washington, Aug. 5.—While the senate was considering the army appropriations bill, last week, stop watch and Taylor system of shop management were discussed. Their first reverse came when the senate rejected a recommendation by its committee on military affairs that the senate non-concur in the anti-stop watch section, inserted by the house. The committee was defeated by a vote of 36 to 15.

Senator Gallinger, who favors the stop watch, made a sly attempt to revive the next day by presenting an amendment that would permit the payment of premiums. This was rejected this was defeated by a vote of 40 to 15.

Senator La Follette raised a warning cry against the trust. He showed that when the bill went to conference between representatives of both branches of congress, that the conferees could re-establish the stop watch and Taylor systems with the Gallinger amendment as a starting point. In that event opponents of these systems in both the house and the senate would be helpless. To counter this rule the conferees' report is not subject to amendment, but must be voted on as a whole. Senator La Follette said:

"We will not permit to be put into this bill a stop watch, or a rule that will give the conferees the opportunity to work out some legislation that will be subject to amendment. We have been here in the conference report in a form that has not been subject to amendment."

Senators Martine of New Jersey and Reed of Missouri also combatted the Gallinger amendment. The latter declared that "a process that shall tend to wear out human lives is not good economy." He said that the A. F. of L. quoted General Crozier, chief of ordnance, United States army, as saying that he was unable to prove the "sweating" features of these systems. General Crozier said:

"The gentleman who has answered how the process at the Watertown arsenal differs in kind from the cases cited in the report of the Taylor shop or 'slave driving' processes, so called. I do not think I have passed the line of fair in the character of the investigation which is applied to increase the output."

Senator Gallinger then pessimistic at the onslaught against his amendment and acknowledged he did not expect it to be successful. Senator Reed, a Democratic labor lawmaker presented this exaggerated statement to the collective wisdom of his colleagues:

"I am not rash enough to believe that the amendment will be agreed to, nor even that it will refuse any demands the labor unions of this country shall make upon it."

GAINS BY STREET CAR MEN.

Detroit, Mich., August 5.—The Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes of America, which was the first six months of 1916 65 locals, representing a membership of 24,651, secured increases in wages to these 7,765 men, as the direct result of trade union methods.

The figures do not include wage increases on unorganized systems, where the threat of organization has given the men substantial increases. In the city of Columbus, Ohio, is cited as one of these instances. In that city 382 street railway men secured increases of from 1 to 2 cents an hour, 6 hours' work, and other localities wage increases were granted for the same purpose.

During the same period there were paid in death and disability benefits $61,000.

During June charters for street car men's unions in Wilmington, N. C.; Harrisburg, Pa., and Akron, Ohio, were issued, and in each case these workers were forced to strike to maintain their right to join a union.

OPPOSE LABOR INJUNCTIONS.

Eureka, Cal., Aug. 5.—Officers of the state federation of labor have issued a call for the state convention, to be held in this city beginning October 2.

At a meeting of the executive committee it was agreed that the next legislature be urged to adopt the following measures:

Regulating and limiting the issuances of injunctions in labor disputes.

Abolishing free employment bureaus.

Amendments to workmen's compensation acts as to guarantee payment of compensation after same becomes due; that the state shall maintain a bureau for the selection of its doctor, and to reduce the waiting period.

"DETECTIVE" BURNS HELD.

New York, Aug. 5.—William J. Burns, the "great detective," is held in $1,000 bail on complaint of the district attorney of Cleveland, Ohio, charging him with contempt of court and order with having "unlawfully, willfully and without authority" removed and destroyed from the records of the Cleveland: La. B. Lamb, Harrisburg; T. F. Kane, Boston; H. M. Power, Jersey City; E. P. Scott, Chicago; F. C. Jaegle, Los Angeles; F. O. Martin, St. Joseph, Mo.

TEXTILE WORKERS AWAKE.

Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 5.—The Textile Workers' union is conducting a campaign agitation for improved working conditions. Hours are being reduced and wages increased. The Textile Workers' union is to call several strikes. Large numbers of unorganized are joining the union as a result of these gains.

Philadelphia, Aug. 5.—Poor working conditions and low wages are being rejected by textile workers in this city. Turn workers, silk workers, carpet and other employes in this industry have called several strikes and in some instances they have been successful in securing betterments.

SEAMEN OPPOSE WELFARE PLAN.

Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 5.—The Seamen's union has secured increased wages and the abolition of a so-called "welfare plan" that the Lake Carriers' association is forcing on its employes. Under this scheme the color of a seaman's eye and hair together with other physical features, are described in a book he must always carry to secure employment on any vessel which is a member of the association. President Furuseth of the International Seamen's union and Secretary Olander, of the local branch in this city conferring with local union seamen.

RAILROAD CLERKS STRIKE.

Jersey City, N. J., Aug. 5.—Because the Lehigh Valley railroad refused to discharge a school of Railway Clerks, were discharged, 20 yellow workers employed by the company, the clerks employed in the yards suspended work. Railroad officials deny that the discharged clerks belonged to a labor union affiliation. "Insubordination" is their excuse. As the railroad policy is against unionism, the officials' denial of affiliation is another way of stating the brotherhood's position.

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INVESTIGATING FARM LIVING.

Sacramento, Cal., Aug. 5.—The state rural credits commission is investigating the much-discussed question whether a man with a family and without experience can make a comfortable living in California on a few acres of land.

Numerous colonies have been started in this state recently on the theory that experience is not necessary. As this movement is attracting attention, it is now proposed that actual conditions be made public. Professor Elwood Mead, chairman of the commission, says:

"If the underlying idea of these colonies as to the returns from intensive agriculture is correct, this plan of rural development should be encouraged, but if it is based on false theories and an exaggerated idea of what can be done on the areas sold to settlers, then this fact should be determined and given publicity in order that this form of rural development may not be overdone and that inexperienced people may be protected from the loss of their savings and the disappointment which usually follows undeserved failure."

PRINTERS TO MEET AUGUST 14.

Baltimore, Aug. 5.—The local Typographical union has completed arrangements for the sixty-second convention of the International Typographical union, which meets in this city next Monday, August 14. It is arranged for the convention to adjourn on Tuesday, when the delegates will participate in a session of Washington Typographical union, at the Lincoln theater.

President Scott of the international union has appointed the following delegates to serve on the committee on laws, which will consider amendments before the convention convenes: James J. Hoban, Cleveland; A. B. Wood, Philadelphia; Harrisburg; T. F. Kane, Boston; H. M. Power, Jersey City; E. P. Scott, Chicago; F. C. Jaegle, Los Angeles; F. O. Martin, St. Joseph, Mo.

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